Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 110024
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:S/S-O:RRICH
APPROVED BY:S/S-O:MRLINO
----------115617 291648Z /45
O 291606Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 110024
EXDIS
FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 09421 ACTION SECSTATE DATED APR 29:

QTE:C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 09421

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, CGEN, UR, US, KS
SUBJECT: SEOUL ANNOUNCEMENT OF RELEASE OF KAL CREW MEMBERS

1. I HEARD WITH REVULSION THIS MORNING ON BBC NEWSCAST THAT SEOUL HAD ANNOUNCED DEPARTURE PLANS OF DETAINED KAL CREW MEMBERS. AWARE FROM PRESS REPORTS THAT OVER PAST WEEK SEOUL HAD GIVEN ALMOST DAILY PLAY BY PLAY ACCOUNTS OF OUR CONVERSATIONS HERE IN MOSCOW, I HAD MADE OUR REPORTING TELEGRAM EXDIS AND DELIBERATELY DE-LETED SEOUL AS ADDRESSEE IN THE HOPE THAT WE WOULD WITH-HOLD INFORMATION FROM OUR LOQUACIOUS FRIENDS UNTIL A SAFE INTERVAL HAD PASSED.

2. I MUST RUEFULLY OBSERVE THAT WE ARE FAST GETTING REPUTATION HERE OF INABILITY TOKEEP THE LID ON ANYTHING-- A COMPLAINT WHICH HAS SOME JUSTIFICATION AS EVIDENCED
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BY THIS LATEST INDISCRETION. I CAN ONLY HOPE THAT SEOUL'S ACT OF IRRESPONSIBILITY WILL NOT JEOPARDIZE THE DEPARTURE OF THE CREW MEMBERS TODAY.

3. WE HAVE BEEN BADGERED BY PRESS SINCE EARLY THIS MORN-ING. SINCE I HAVE CONSISTENTLY FOLLOWED PRACTICE OF NOT LYING TO PRESS, I HAVE INSTRUCTED SPOKESMAN TO SIMPLY

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SAY NO COMMENT WHEN QUERIED ABOUT SEOUL ANNOUNCEMENT.
TOON UNQTE VANCE

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRISONERS RELEASE, AIRCRAFT PILOTS, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978041/aaaaaama.tel
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